



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE STATE BUDGET
LANSING

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Governor Granholm Signs Budgets that Support Veterans Services, the Judiciary, and the Arts

LANSING – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed into law today fiscal year 2005 appropriations bills for the Departments of History, Arts and Libraries and Military and Veterans Affairs. Also signed was the budget for the Judiciary that continues funding for drug courts that provide an effective and less expensive option for dealing with drug law offenders.

“These budget bills enrich the quality of life for Michigan citizens by protecting critical services to veterans; supporting arts and cultural initiatives; and allowing our state’s court system to operate more efficiently,” said Governor Granholm.

Judiciary

The total budget for the Judiciary is \$253.2 million; the general fund portion is \$158.1 million. House Bill 5520 continues to provide \$4.6 million of funding for drug treatment courts, which are a wise investment towards curtailing overall criminal justice expenditures. Offenders will be held accountable for their behavior while receiving treatment for substance abuse problems. Long, costly incarcerations at both the local and state level can be avoided through the continuing success of drug treatment courts.

History, Arts and Libraries

This budget appropriates \$57.1 million, \$45.8 million general fund, for the Department of History, Arts and Libraries to maintain and promote Michigan’s historical treasures and heritage and encourage the development of the arts and other cultural activities. House Bill 5519 contains \$13.8 million in state support to libraries and \$11.7 million for arts and cultural grants.

Military and Veterans Affairs

The fiscal year 2005 budget for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs includes \$110.7 million, \$37.4 of which is general fund, to support services to veterans and military preparedness. House Bill 5522 maintains funding of \$3.9 million for the eleven Veterans’ Service Organizations; dedicates \$57.8 million in funding for the operations of the Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti Veterans’ Homes; and contains \$3.9 million for the Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy, to serve high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 18 providing life skills and employment potential through military-based training.

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